

Richwood Gun and Game Club
Range Rules and New Member Orientation

Version 2.8- May, 2022

These rules and the face-to-face orientation program are to set guidelines for members and their guests while using Richwood Gun and Game Club (RGGC) facilities. It is the responsibility of every member to know and understand the rules and to monitor activity of people around you, while on Club grounds and to ensure that all rules are obeyed.

Safety is our priority. Know and follow all range rules. Take action when you see an unsafe act.

Richwood Gun and Game Club property and ranges are intended for the exclusive use of club members, their immediate families, and guests per the club's policies and procedures.

These rules and orientation program may be modified at any time as deemed necessary by the Board of Governors of the RGGC. The Membership will be immediately notified and such changes will be posted on the Club property.

Four Universal Rules of Firearm Safety

- ALWAYS keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Do not point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
- ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot and your sights are on the target.
- ALWAYS keep firearms unloaded until ready to use.
- ALWAYS be sure of your target and what is beyond.

Member Responsibilities

1. All members must display their membership cards in a clearly visible manner, while on club property.
2. All Members must first successfully complete a range orientation session prior to shooting on RGGC ranges.
3. Members need to provide their own communication devices (CELL PHONE) while on the property in order to contact emergency and medical personnel if needed. First aid kits are located in the Club house. If first aid kits are utilized, a club officer must be notified. (Current contact information is on Member's Only web page) Emergency-call 911 or call Union County Sheriff 937-645-4100.
4. All guests and their actions are the responsibility of the escorting club member. The escorting club member will be held accountable for any rule violation the guest commits. Guests may not be on the property unescorted.
5. No alcohol or other debilitating substance can be consumed prior to or while possessing, handling, or shooting firearms. Any member who violates this rule shall be removed from the property immediately and the Club Officers shall be notified.
6. Members who observe safety violations are to report them to any RGGC Range Safety Officer, Club Officer or Board of Governor member.
7. Abusive behavior, misuse or wanton destruction of club ranges or property, failure to obey range or club rules, or any act that endangers others will not be tolerated and may result in membership privileges being revoked.
8. Parking and vehicle operations.
 - a) Drive only on graveled areas and park only in authorized areas.
 - b) USE GOOD JUDGEMENT IF YOU MUST PARK ON GRASS. You are responsible for damage and tire ruts to grass areas.
 - c) Never drive or park on the shooting pads on the 300-yard range. (Also see the 300-yard rules)
 - d) Never drive a motor vehicle on the 100-yard rifle range or in the posted areas of the multi-purpose, pistol bay or any other No Vehicle posted area.

General Range Rules – These rules are for all recreational shooting. Authorized Club events may follow other specific firearm safety rules according to the event.

1. Make sure you read, understand, and follow your firearm's user manual.
2. It is the shooter's responsibility to know how to use their firearm safely, that their firearm is in a safe operating condition, and that they are using the correct and safe ammunition for their firearm.
3. It is the shooter's responsibility to ensure the down range shooting areas are safe and clear of all hazards. **Any time people are down range; no firearm may be handled, cased, brought to or removed from the Firing Line (see General Range Operation and Command - *Firing Line*).**
4. Ranges are open for use from sunrise to sunset. Special permission may be obtained for lowlight/ night shoots from the Club Executive Officer.
5. Eye and ear protection must be worn by everyone on the firing line and in the immediate area whenever the line is Hot (see General Range Operation and Command-*Hot Range*).
6. All firearms must be in a Safe Condition (see Definitions-*Safe Condition*) while on Club property except when on a Hot firing line.
7. Concealed Handgun License holders must comply with the Ohio Revised Code when carrying a loaded firearm on Club property.
8. Always point the muzzle at the backstop when you are on the firing line. Never allow the muzzle to point anywhere a projectile could escape the range. Muzzles must be pointed at the backstop at all times **especially while chambering or clearing a round.**
9. Shooters may never discharge their firearms outside the range's Limiting Posts (see Definitions-*Limiting Posts*) or over the top of a backstop or side berm. Fully automatic firearms or devices that render the firearm essentially fully automatic (i.e., Bump fire/slide fire) **are not allowed** No uncontrolled fire is allowed at any time. .50 caliber BMG firearms **are not allowed**.
10. Tracer, incendiary or explosive ammunition or "Tannerite" type products are not allowed.
11. Shooters are to shoot only at Authorized Targets (see Definitions- *Authorized Targets*) that are placed between the range limiting signs and below a designated maximum height marker. Members **may not** bring steel targets or other materials other than paper and cardboard for targets.
12. **Target Placement-Set all targets to ensure all projectiles impact the backstop at a correct height above the ground. Place targets on stands or frames so that projectiles do not impact or damage the support frames-vertical or horizontal. Do not place targets on vertical or horizontal support frames. Do not place multiple targets on stands if you cannot ensure all rounds will impact backstop correctly. Be sure there are no other target stands behind or down range of intermediate placed target stands. If necessary, take aim off to the side of the target and verify if the round will impact the backstop correctly. No target stands may be constructed with metal uprights.**
13. Fired bullets must impact the backstops; bullets MUST NOT impact level ground, posts, overhead baffles, plastic drums, target stands, their uprights, bases or frames, etc. **(No Ricochets!)** Shooters must place all targets at the appropriate height for the caliber, distance, and shooting position taken, so as to ensure that all projectiles fired, after passing through the target will strike the backstop at the proper designated height (see General Range Rules-*Target Placement*).
14. No smoking is allowed within 30 feet of any black powder guns or equipment. Smoking items should not be thrown on the ground!!!
15. Clean up any debris, targets or other trash from the range and firing line upon the completion of your shooting session. This includes picking up spent casings (brass, steel, and aluminum). Roller magnets are provided to retrieve steel casings. Do not leave intact, misfired, or live ammo on club property. Return all portable target stands and materials to the target storage shed.
16. Target Storage Shed- all portable range target stands, uprights and backing materials are to be returned to the target storage shed after use. The shed is to be locked. Verify that lock is engaged.

17. Each range (300-yard, shotgun, multipurpose, pistol bay and 100 yard) may have specific rules only for that range.
18. Shot shells and slugs are NOT to be shot at Club portable target stands (wheeled stands). Use wooden H-stands and 2x2's sticks from target shed for all shotgun practice.
19. **Gates and Sign In-** All members are responsible for keeping the access gates locked at all times, including while using the ranges. All members will be signed in using their access cards when opening the gates. All guests of members must be signed in at the Club House. Please list your badge number.
20. **Guest Policy-** A member may bring one shooting guest at any one time to the Club's shooting ranges. All guests (including family) must be signed in and out at the Club house. The member must supervise their activity to meet Club Range Rules. A guest may attend only two times per year and then is required to join the Club to continue shooting here. An exception will be made for direct family members such as spouses and children under 18, college students living at home, and grandchildren. Special situations may be appealed to the Executive Committee. *(See attachment for more Guest details page 7)*

General Range Operation and Command

1. Shooters must verbally coordinate all shooting activities and establish a common firing line.
2. "Cold Range"- all firearms are to be unloaded, cleared (see Definitions-*Unloaded, Cleared*) and in a Safe Condition. When people are down range, all firearms are to be pointed in a safe direction and not to be handled, or brought to or removed from the firing line. ECI's must be inserted in firearms. Handguns may be holstered after being put in a Safe Condition.
3. "Hot Range"-firearms may be handled, loaded and fired. They may be removed from or brought to the firing line if in a Safe Condition.
4. "Firing line"- a designated straight line, parallel to and at a distance from a backstop, where all firearms muzzles are in line during the shooting process. All shooters on a range must use a common firing line.
5. "Cease Fire or STOP"- a command that may be used by anyone on or near a Firing Line. This command requires that all shooters immediately cease shooting, keep fingers off of triggers and maintain that muzzles are pointed in a safe direction until otherwise instructed.
6. "Clear"- a command to request that a firing line be made "Cold". All shooters on a firing line may finish shooting their string of shots, then unload, clear, put the firearm in a safe condition and reply with a verbal statement of "Clear". All shooters on a line should then step back from a grounded firearm. The person who called "Clear" may then call the range "Cold".
7. To make a firing line "Hot"- be sure no one is in front of the firing line and call "Ready". If not, anyone should say "Not Ready". All shooters on the line must respond visually or audibly to confirm their "Ready" status. The initial shooter may then call "The Range is Hot"
8. "Ready Line"-
 - An area or designated line coordinated clearly away from any active shooters or firing line.
 - Firearms may **never be loaded in this area**, and ECI's must always be inserted.
 - Muzzles must always be pointed in a safe direction.
 - Firearms may be uncased and may be picked up with ECI's inserted but may not be shouldered.
 - Firearms may have sights adjusted or other non-firing mechanisms adjusted.
 - External magazines may have ammunition inserted, **but no magazine may be inserted into any firearm or no ammunition may be inserted into internal magazines or cylinders.**
 - All non-firearm equipment and supplies may be handled at any time.

Youth Shooters

Objective: Richwood Gun and Game Club strives to develop youth shooters into highly responsible, safe and lifelong shooters. Youth shooters require special attention to ensure safety is foremost while allowing growth and keeping the shooting experience fun. We recognize that youth shooters will advance if they choose to formalize their shooting experience.

1. Youth shooters are defined as shooters under the age of 18, with handguns-under the age of 21.
2. Youth under the age of 5 are not permitted on the firing line.
3. Youth shooters must be under the direct physical control of a non-shooting adult member who is range qualified (age 21 or older), at all times. Youth who are RGGC approved must be supervised by a range qualified adult (age 21 or older).
4. One adult may not be in direct physical control of more than one youth shooter. Direct physical control requires the adult must be within an arm's reach of the youth and in direct control of their actions.

Range Specific Rules (all other general range rules apply)

Special events or Organized Shooting Events may operate under different safety rules

300-yard Rifle Range – Members must complete a Qualification to have access to this range

No Guests are allowed to shoot at any position on this range

1. The presence of farming activity in the adjacent fields to the east and north closes the range.
2. **Do not shoot from the 200 or 300 yard line until the firearm is sighted in at a 100 yard range.**
3. All targets will be located at the base of the backstop, on the plywood frames and between the range limiting posts. Intermediate targets are not permitted.
4. No cross firing. All shots must be straight to the base of the backstop.
5. The 100 yard pad is the lowest priority shooting position. Do not use the 100 if any member wishes to use the 200 or 300-yard positions.
6. Use of the 200- and 300-yard pads will be first come first serve.
7. No vehicles are allowed on any shooting pad at any time. Foot traffic only.
8. Bird shot and buck shot are not permitted to be fired on this range. Slugs are permitted-See Rule 18, General Range Rules.
9. Uncase only one firearm at a time. Re-case or store any firearm and its ammunition before using another.
10. When down range of the 200 or 300 yard shooting positions, place the “STOP- people down range” signs in an upright visible position at any up-range shooting pad. **The “STOP” signs are to be left in the down position when the ranges are not in use.**
11. Steel Targets- The Club has installed steel gong for general shooting. No steel core, green tip, or any other round that is armor piercing may be used. If a bullet has magnetic qualities, it cannot be used. Ammunition that is more than 3000 FPS may not be used. If in doubt, do not shoot the club steel. If damaged, the shooter is responsible for replacement.

Multi-Purpose Bay (large bay with concrete dividing wall)

1. During open shooting periods, there will be only one firing line. No shooter may be actively shooting from up-range of another shooter.
2. When using the Multipurpose bay, all shooters are to be using a common firing line when any shooter is beyond the dividing wall (shooting greater than 30 yards). NO shooter may be beyond the end of the wall (greater than 30 yards) on one side while another shooter is within the end of the wall (less than 30 yards) on the opposite side. When shooting in one of the bays at less than 30 yards, you are to place the FIRING LINE sign in the opposite bay in line with the end of the wall (at the 30-yard line)
3. If more than 1 person desires to use the bay, the bay shall be divided amongst the active shooters and the shooters shall all agree on a common firing line.
4. If there is more than one active shooter in the bay, all targets are to set perpendicular to the shooter (no angle shooting).
5. **No shooting of aerial targets (i.e. no throwing clay pigeons) in the shooting bay.**
6. Uncase only one firearm at a time. Re-case or store any firearm and its ammunition before using another.
7. All shooting must be done with in the bay.
8. No shooting shall be done under any circumstances that would violate a 180 degree downrange arc.

Pistol Bay- 25 Yard (with wood wall)

1. Only pistol caliber ammunition may be used-**no bottle neck rifle rounds or shotgun of any type.**
2. All targets must be placed so that no rounds or ricochets will hit the wood divider wall.
3. **All target placement and round impacts must be to the right of the red/white range limiting post.**
All rounds must impact backstop.
4. No shooting from behind the 25 yard line (front edge of shelter).
5. If multiple shooters and target distances- a common firing line must be established.
6. If shooting the club steel targets, you must have a minimum of 10 yards (30 feet) between the shooter and the steel. Do not shoot steel with magnum or +P ammunition.

100 Yard Rifle Range

1. Farming activity to the north and west of this range closes this range.
2. The firing line is the front edge of the concrete pad of the shooting shelter. Shooters may establish a firing line ahead of the concrete pad if agreed by all present.
3. No cross firing. All shots must be straight to the base of the backstop. All targets must be directly in front of the shooter's position in the same firing lane as the shooter's bench.
4. No targets may be closer than 50 yards from firing line. All fired projectiles must impact the backstop first without striking level ground. **NO SKIPPING BULLETS or RICOCHETS.**
5. If shooting at the 50-yard line, fired projectiles must not strike steel targets or range limiting posts.
6. No drawing and shooting from the holstered position is allowed from under the shelter.
7. Bird shot and buck shot are not permitted to be fired on this range. Slugs are permitted-See Rule 18, General Range Rules.
8. Uncase only one firearm at a time. Re-case or store any firearm and its ammunition before using another.
9. When down range of the shooting shelter structure, place the "STOP- people down range" sign in an upright visible position down range of the shelter. **The "STOP" signs are to be left in the down position when the ranges are not in use.**
10. Steel Targets- The Club has installed steel gongs for general shooting. No steel core, green tip, or any other round that is armor piercing may be used. If a bullet has magnetic qualities, it cannot be used. Ammunition that is more than 3000 FPS may not be used. If in doubt, do not shoot the club steel. If damaged, the shooter is responsible for replacement.

Shotgun (trap range)

1. Shotguns are to be kept unloaded, actions open unless on a designated firing position
2. Shotguns are not to be loaded unless muzzles are pointed down range
3. A maximum of two rounds loaded at any time in the shotgun.
4. Permissible shot sizes are # 7, 7-1/2, 8 or 9.
5. When using a portable or hand thrower, ensure that shot will fall in proper shot fall area, which is the mowed area and wetlands beyond the club house.
6. Clean up all spent hulls.
7. To use the trap house, members must complete a separate orientation. You must provide your own clays.
- 8 Coordinate use of the trap range with any member's using the 200/ 300- yard range.**

Building Rules

1. Access to the clubhouse is available to all members for restroom use (keep bathroom doors closed in winter to prevent bathrooms from freezing) and meetings. Kitchen use is for scheduled events only or events approved by the club officers. Anyone entering the building is responsible for turning off lights and locking all doors. Verify that the lock is engaged. Members entering the Club House are responsible to keep the building clean. This includes any mud that may be tracked in. No food or drink containers are to be left out and all trash should be taken to the dumpster.
2. Access to the green or white equipment storage barns is restricted to those persons authorized by the officers of the club. Those authorized are responsible for turning off lights and locking all doors. Verify that the lock is engaged.

Definitions:

1. **Empty Chamber Indicator-** ECI. A device designed to fit the gauge, caliber, or type of firearm used and has a prong that extends in the firearm chamber and includes a visual flag signaling that the firearm is unloaded.
2. **Unloaded-** A firearm is unloaded when it is cleared (see Definitions-Cleared). That includes the removal of all ammunition or ammunition components in any internal magazines, cylinders, chamber, barrels or compartment. Detachable magazines or cylinders must have been removed. Muzzle loading guns must have the caps or primers removed, pans clear of any powder or explosive substance, hammers down, or actions open and safeties on, if present. Any loaded muzzle loading firearm must be cleared by firing or clearing the powder and round with other commonly approved means before the firing line can be made safe.
3. **Cleared-** With a firearm pointed in a safe direction and finger off the trigger, verify that any detachable magazine or cylinder has been removed. Then physically and visually check that all chambers, cylinders, internal magazines, barrels, or compartments to assure that all ammunition has been removed.
4. **Safe Condition-** when a firearm is unloaded and cleared (see Definitions-Unloaded and Cleared). The actions or cylinders must be open and an ECI inserted into the chamber (revolvers included). A firearm may be cased or holstered without an ECI after it has been unloaded and cleared. Safeties must be on if present.
5. **Authorized Targets-** All targets are to be paper or cardboard. All targets are to be removed from stands and properly disposed of. No targets may have likenesses of political figures or be of any derogatory nature. Clay targets may be used as pistol/rifle targets if placed on stationary holders at a correct height. Clay targets must be placed on berms. Clean up clay pieces. Members may not use their own steel targets.
7. **Club Range Safety Officers (RSO)** Individuals who are trained and authorized by the Club Officers to oversee organized shooting events and who have authority for enforcement of the Club range rules at all times. Also includes the Club Executive Officer (XO).
8. **RGGC-** Richwood Gun and Game Club- a 501(c) 7 social club.
9. **Organized Shooting Events-** shooting events that are planned, approved by the Board and have the oversight of a qualified Range Safety Officer. Printed RGGC member range rules may be modified while conducting this event. All normally accepted firearm safety rules will be followed for this type of event.
10. **Air guns,** regardless of ft./lbs. rating, are subject to all of the same rules as other firearms.
11. **Range Limiting Posts-** Fixed posts painted RED and WHITE that defines the maximum horizontal limits that targets may be set in front of a backstop. **Set targets so that rounds will not impact these posts.**

RGGC 2022 Revision to Guest Policy

02/24/2022

To create a revised policy that will help ensure the safety of all members and guests while using the ranges and to maintain the safe shooting practices that are detailed in our Range Rules document, these revisions to the existing Guest Policy are proposed. The ability to bring GUESTS to our Member owned property and Ranges is a privilege. Violation of GUEST privileges affect all Club Members and the safety of our ranges. Properly completed Liability forms are absolutely essential.

1. Any person who is not a current paid Club member who also has not completed a RGGC Range Orientation is a GUEST. (Note- this includes any and all family members and Youth Members)
2. Any GUEST who is invited to be on RGGC property by a member either as a spectator or to use the shooting ranges must fill out completely, sign, date and list the host member's ID number on provided Liability Forms. Liability Forms are to be deposited in the Guest Box. All GUESTS must be signed in and out from being on RGGC property in the GUEST Book every visit.
3. Immediate Family member GUESTS of a RGGC Member may complete a Liability Form once a calendar year. Members must designate on the Liability Form if the GUEST is Family. Non- family GUESTS must complete a liability form each visit.
4. All GUESTS must be provided a copy of the GUEST RANGE RULES and it is the responsibility of the host member to review the appropriate rules for the utilization of RGGC property and ranges by the GUEST.
5. Any Member who hosts a GUEST is responsible for any and all actions of the GUEST while on RGGC Property. Any violation of RGGC Range Rules by a GUEST is a considered a violation committed by the Host Member.
6. A RGGC Member is permitted to host one non- family shooting GUEST and one non- shooting GUEST per visit. Non- family shooting GUESTS are permitted two visits per calendar year.
7. RGGC family GUESTS are permitted unlimited visits per year. Only one family member GUEST is permitted to be shooting at a time. The number of Family members allowed per visit is based on the Host Member's ability to manage those in attendance.
8. Host Member is to provide immediate supervision for any shooting GUEST. (Note requirements for Youth Shooters)
9. Any Violation of the published Range Rules regarding Guest Privileges may result in a loss of Guest Privileges and possible suspension or loss of Club Membership for the Host Member.

Events Policy

1. A Club event is defined as any additional activity, outside of regular club events that uses Club facilities. The event may involve members, guests and the public.
2. Any member in good standing may propose to organize an event for the benefit of Club members or the Club in general. A written plan and budget with proposed costs and participation fees must be presented for approval to the Club president or his designee approximately 30 days before the event. Any event must be approved in writing by the President or his designee, with the Executive Committee being informed. The Events Policy will be enforced by the President.
3. Any shooting event may include an invitation to the general public provided that club members have priority status in sign-up and/or fees.
4. Any shooting event proposed must include a minimum cost per participant including organizers if they shoot or actively participate in the event. This cost is to reimburse the club for estimated overhead such as utilities, insurance, etc.
5. No event may personally benefit any club member financially.
6. No prizes, gifts, entry fees or other benefits may be paid from Club general funds. If benefits are to be given to participants, they must be paid from entry fees collected.
7. Firearm training classes may be organized by any member who is a certified NRA or USCCA instructor. Certified instructors are not subject to a participation minimum fee, but receive no pay for this work. New-member certified instructors need to be approved by an Executive Committee, authorized instructor, before scheduling an event on their own.
8. Any financial transactions involved with an event must be done through the Club treasury. Funds must be handled only by a member in good standing.
9. A final written report and all funds collected must be presented to the Club Treasurer and the President, no longer than 10 days after the event or the next scheduled Club meeting, unless approved by the President.
10. This written report must include: title and date of the event, all names of the participants, amount paid per person, expenses with receipts, and profit for the Club. Any event manager not reporting within this framework will not be allowed to reschedule this event until the reporting requirements are met.